

## **Remarks**

### **1. Amendments**

By the present Amendment, claims 1, 10, and 15 have been amended, claims 3, 25 have been cancelled, and new claims 26-32 have been added. Upon entry of the present Amendment, claims 1, 4-24, and 26-32 will be pending in the application.

"The silver iodide content of 90% by mole or more" in new claims 26-29 is supported in the specification on page 185, lines 1-2.

"The maximum sensitivity in a wavelength from 300 nm to 500 nm" in new claims 29-32 is supported in the specification on page 201, lines 19-22.

### **2. Comments**

#### **Paragraph 4: rejection of claims 1, 5-6, 23-25 under 35 U.S.C.102(b)**

Claims 1, 5-6, 23-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as obvious over Okada et al.(USP 6,210,983).

Okada discloses a compound of the formula: X-L<sub>1</sub>-D, wherein D is an electron donative group, X is an adsorption promoting group, and L<sub>1</sub> is a valence bond or linking group.

The electron donative group represented by D is preferably an amino group, a hydrazino group, hydroxylamino group, a hydroxamic acid group, a semicarbazido group or ahydroxyl-semicarbazido. More preferably, X is an amino group, a hydrazino group or semicarbazido group(column 5, lines 1-8)..

The adsorption promoting group represented by X is thioamide, thiourea, thiosemicarbazide, mercapto group, heterocyclic mercapto group, disulfide group, nitrogeenous heterocyclic group, or quaternary nitrofenous heterocyclic salt. Preferably, X is a thioamide or mercapto group, more preferably a mercapto

group(column 6, lines 51-67 to column 7, lines 1-28).

The compound of formula: X-L<sub>1</sub>-D in Okada ensures sufficient super-sensitization effects in the red to infrared region, especially in the practically advantageous infrared region in the range of 750nm to 1400nm (column 3, lines 10-14, column 28, lines 19-20). Super-sensitization is defined as:

"A spectral sensitivity of a dye is increased on addition of a second substance. If the added material does not itself sensitize in the spectral region of the sensitizing dye, any increase in spectral sensitivity is clearly superadditive and the addendum may be said to supersensitize the sensitizer." (T.H. James, *The theory of the photographic process*, 4th edition, p.260A, 1977, Macmillan Pub. Co.)

Please note that the above-quoted passage is attached hereto.

The compound having an adsorption group and a reducing group in the present invention is represented by the following formula (I):

A-(W)<sub>n</sub>-B                      formula (I)

wherein, the reducing group represented by A is a hydroxyurea group or 1-phenyl-3-pyrazolidone group.

The hydroxyurea group and 1-phenyl-3-pyrazolidone group is not involved in the preferable examples of the electron donative group represented by D in Okada.

The compound having an adsorption group and a reducing group in the present invention is a chemical sensitizer, which increases sensitivity notwithstanding the presence or absence of sensitizing dye. Examples 1 to 3 in the present application disclose the effect of the compound in the absence of sensitizing dye. The compound having an adsorption group and a reducing group in the present invention also improves raw stock storability and image stability such as print-out resistance. These effects of the compound of the present invention would not have been obvious in view of Okada.

The development accelerator represented by formulae (1), (2) and (3) in the present invention is not disclosed or suggested in Okada.

It is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

**Paragraph 5: rejection of claims 3-4 and 8-9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)**

Claims 3-4 and 8-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over Okada'983 in view of Oya et al.(2002/0048732).

As discussed above, Okada does not disclose or suggest the compound having an adsorption group and a reducing group in the present invention. Therefore, the combination of Okada and Oya does not teach or suggest the present invention. It is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

**Paragraph 6: rejection of claims 10-14 under 35 U.S.C.103(a)**

Claims 10-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over Okada'983 in combination with Tsuzuki et al.(USP-5,677,121).

As discussed above, Okada does not teach or suggest the compound having an adsorption group and a reducing group in the present invention. Therefore, the combination of Okada and Tsuzuki does not teach or suggest the present invention. It is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

**Paragraph 7: rejection of claims 15-21 under 35 U.S.C.103(a)**

Claims 15-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over Okada'983 in combination with Fukui et al.(US-2002/0102502A1).

As discussed above, Okada does not teach or suggest the compound having an

adsorption group and a reducing group in the present invention. Therefore, the combination of Okada and Fukui does not teach or suggest the present invention. It is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sheldon J. Moss". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sheldon" and last name "Moss" clearly distinguishable.

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